

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING FOR))	ORDER GRANTING
APPROVAL OF AN ELECTRIC SERVICE))	APPROVAL OF ELECTRIC
TERRITORY AGREEMENT BETWEEN WEST))	SERVICE TERRITORY
RIVER ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION, INC. AND))	AGREEMENT
BLACK HILLS POWER))	EL01-031

On November 28, 2001, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing by West River Electric Association, Inc. (WREA) and Black Hills Power (BHP) for approval of an electric service territory agreement. The application states that WREA has authorized BHP to provide service to one "frozen customer." Both companies believe this agreement will improve future reliability while eliminating duplication of facilities. The affected customer agreed to the exchange and signed a consent form so stating.

The specifics related to the account are:

WREA "frozen customer" transferred to BHP:

BH Greyhound Racing Account, #9021501501, located in SW¼, SE¼, Section 17, T2N, R7E, BHM, Pennington County, South Dakota.

On December 12, 2001, at its regularly scheduled meeting, the Commission considered the request for approval of the exchange. Commission Staff recommended approval.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 49-34A, specifically, 49-34A-4, 49-34A-42, and 49-34A-55. Further, the Commission finds that the release of the frozen customer in the service territory will avoid unnecessary duplication of facilities, provide adequate electric service to all customers affected, and promote the efficient use and development of the electric systems of BHP and WREA. The Commission therefore concludes that the release of the frozen customer in the service territory is in the public interest and it shall be granted. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED, that the request seeking approval of an electric service territory agreement to release a frozen customer in the service territory is hereby granted.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 20th day of December, 2001.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, by facsimile or by first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.
By: _____
Date: _____
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

PAM NELSON, Commissioner